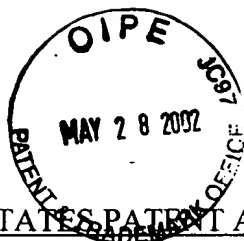


S/N 09/954,555



COPY OF PAPERS
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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: THOMPSON ET AL. Examiner: UNKNOWN
Serial No.: 09/954,555 Group Art Unit: 3731
Filed: SEPTEMBER 17, 2001 Docket No.: 11576.55USP
Title: IMPLANT DELIVERY SYSTEM WITH INTERLOCK

RECEIVED
MAY 30 2002
3100 MAIL ROOM

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence and the paper(s), as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on May 10, 2002.

By: *Debra A. Bailey*
Debra A. Bailey

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231



Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided. An English translation of the cited reference is also provided for the Examiner.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked

as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

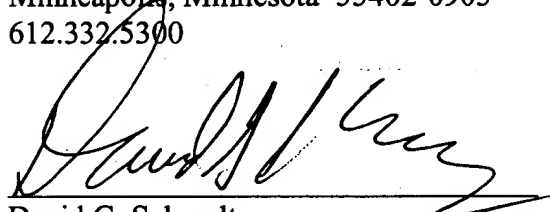
Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P. O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402-0903
612.332.5300

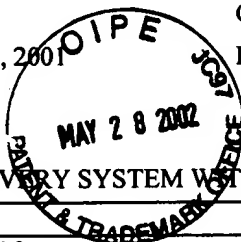
Date

4/10/02


David G. Schmaltz
Reg. No. 39,828
DGS:PSTjt

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: THOMPSON ET AL. Examiner: UNKNOWN
Serial No.: 09/954,555 Group Art Unit: 3731
Filed: SEPTEMBER 17, 2001 Docket: 11576-55US11
Confirmation No.: 9046
Title: IMPLANT DELIVERY SYSTEM WITH INTERLOCK



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ORIGINALLY FILED

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 10, 2002.

By:

Name:

Debra A. Bailey
Debra A. Bailey

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

We are transmitting herewith the attached:

- ☒ Transmittal Sheet in duplicate containing Certificate of Mailing
- ☒ Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement, Form 1449, 1 Reference, English translation of cited reference
- ☒ Return postcard

Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers or any future reply, if appropriate. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.
P.O. Box 2903, Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
612.332.5300

By:

Name: David G. Schmaltz

Reg. No.: 39,828

DSchmaltz:KAF:PSTdb



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